

Message Text

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17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OES-06

/063 W

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R 222326Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4390

INFO ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO (POUCH)

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MX, SOPN, PFOR

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FOR OPEN SOCIETY MAKES HEADLINES AGAIN

1. MEXICO CITY DAILY EL DIA PUBLISHED EIGHT COLUMN HEADLINES APRIL 22 READING "PLAN TO DESTABILIZE THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO". STORY COMPLETE WITH "SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS" IS BASED ON AN APRIL 11 LETTER ALLEGEDLY SENT BY WILLIAM HIGGS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE "COMMITTEE FOR AN OPEN SOCIETY", TO SENATOR CHURCH IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS. HIGGS' FIVE BASES FOR HIS ACCUSATION ARE:

A. THE FORMATION OF THE AMERICAN ESCAPE COMMITTEE, WHICH HE SUGGESTS THE USG IS WINKING AT;

B. A U.S. PRESS CAMPAIGN TO UNDERMINE CONFIDENCE IN THE STABILITY OF THE PESO;

C. ALLEGED EFFORTS BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO CURTAIL ACCESS TO U.S. NEWS AFFECTING MEXICO;

D. THE RECENT SO-CALLED (BY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA) "CLANDESTINE MEETING" OF OPPONENTS TO PROPOSED MEXICAN LEGISLATION--OPPONENTS ARE "PRO U.S.", HIGGS SAYS; AND

E. THE "SWINE FLU" THREAT, HIGGS ALLEGING THAT U.S. INTENT IS TO SPREAD EPIDEMIC TO MEXICO AS A POPULATION CONTROL MEASURE.

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2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL PREVIOUS STATEMENTS BY HIGGS HAVE BEEN GIVEN SPACE BY INFLUENTIAL DAILY EXCELSIOR. WE ASSUME EXCELSIOR HAD THE CURRENT HIGGS LETTER BUT CHOSE NOT TO PRINT IT, AN ENCOURAGING SIGN. EL DIA, IN OUR VIEW, IS NOT A RESPONSIBLE PAPER, BUT THIS OPINION MAY NOT BE SHARED BY MANY MEXICANS. IF QUERIED, WE PLAN TO LABEL HIGGS ACCUSATIONS THE NONSENSE THAT THEY ARE.
THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, MX, US, EL DIA, (HIGGS, WILLIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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